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Statistical Profile

Hispanics of Guatemalan Origin in the United States, 2010

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An estimated 1.1 million Hispanics of Guatemalan origin resided in the United States in 2010, according to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Guatemalans in this statistical profile are people who self-identified as Hispanics of Guatemalan origin; this means either they themselves are Guatemalan immigrants or they trace their family ancestry to Guatemala. Guatemalans are the sixth-largest population of Hispanic origin living in the United States, accounting for 2.2% of the U.S. Hispanic population in 2010. Mexicans, the nation's largest Hispanic origin group, constituted 32.9 million, or 64.9%, of the Hispanic population in 2010.¹

This statistical profile compares the demographic, income and economic characteristics of the Guatemalan population with the characteristics of all Hispanics and the U.S. population overall. It is based on tabulations from the 2010 American Community Survey by the Pew Hispanic Center, a project of the Pew Research Center.² Key facts include:

- **Immigration status.** Two-in-three Guatemalans (67%) in the United States are foreign born compared with 37% of Hispanics and 13% of the U.S. population overall. More than seven-in-ten immigrants from Guatemala (73%) arrived in the U.S. in 1990 or later. Nearly one-quarter of Guatemalan immigrants (24%) are U.S. citizens.
- **Language.** Four-in-ten Guatemalans (41%) speak English proficiently.³ Some 59% of Guatemalans ages 5 and older report speaking English less than very well, compared with 35% of all Hispanics.
- **Age.** Guatemalans are younger than U.S. population. The median age of Guatemalans is 27; the median ages of the U.S. population and all Hispanics are 37 and 27, respectively.
- **Marital status.** Less than half of Guatemalans (41%) and Hispanics overall (44%) are married
- **Fertility.** One-in-ten (10%) Guatemalan women ages 15 to 44 gave birth in the 12 months prior to this survey. That was greater than the rate for all Hispanic women—8%—and the overall rate for U.S. women—7%.

¹ Percentages are computed before numbers are rounded.

² The 2010 Census did not collect data on most of the characteristics tabulated in this profile.

³ This includes Guatemalans ages 5 and older who report speaking only English at home or speaking English very well.

- **Regional dispersion.** Four-in-ten Guatemalans (41%) live in the West, mostly in California (34%). One-third (33%) live in the South.
- **Educational attainment.** Guatemalans have lower levels of education than the Hispanic population overall. Some 8% of Guatemalans ages 25 and older—compared with 13% of all U.S. Hispanics—have obtained at least a bachelor's degree.
- **Income.** The median annual personal earnings for Guatemalans ages 16 and older were \$17,100 in 2010; the median earnings for all U.S. Hispanics and the U.S. population were \$20,000 and \$28,500, respectively.
- **Poverty status.** The share of Guatemalans who live in poverty, 26%, is higher than the rate for the general U.S. population (15%) and for all Hispanics (25%).
- **Health Insurance.** Nearly one-half of Guatemalans (48%) do not have health insurance compared with 31% of all U.S. Hispanics and 16% of the general U.S. population. Additionally, 18% of Guatemalans younger than 18 are uninsured.
- **Homeownership.** The rate of Guatemalan homeownership (30%) is lower than the rate for all Hispanics (47%) and the U.S. population (65%) as a whole.

About the Data

This statistical profile of Hispanics of Guatemalan origin is based on the Census Bureau's 2010 [American Community Survey](#) (ACS). The ACS is the largest household survey in the United States, with a sample of about 3 million addresses. The data used for this statistical profile come from 2010 ACS Integrated Public Use Microdata Series ([IPUMS](#)), representing a 1% sample of the U.S. population.

Like any survey, estimates from the ACS are subject to sampling error and (potentially) measurement error. Information on the ACS sampling strategy and associated error is available at http://www.census.gov/acs/www/methodology/methodology_main/. An example of measurement error is that citizenship rates for the foreign born are estimated to be overstated in the Decennial Census and other official surveys, such as the ACS (see Jeffrey Passel, "[Growing Share of Immigrants Choosing Naturalization](#)," Pew Hispanic Center, Washington, D.C. (March 28, 2007)). Finally, estimates from the ACS may differ from the Decennial Census or other Census Bureau surveys due to differences in methodology and data collection procedures (see, for example, http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/methodology/ASA_nelson.pdf, <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/laborfor/laborfactsheet092209.html> and <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/datasources/factsheet.html>).

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Table 1
U.S. Population, by Ethnicity and Guatemalan Origin, 2010
(thousands, unless otherwise noted)

	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Guatemalan Origin
Total	309,350	50,730	1,108
Gender			
Male	152,055	25,723	628
Female	157,294	25,007	480
Nativity			
Native Born	269,433	31,912	367
Foreign Born	39,917	18,817	741
Age			
Median (in years)	37	27	27
Age Groups			
Younger than 5	20,095	5,089	114
5-17	54,037	12,093	209
18-29	51,776	10,471	299
30-39	40,245	8,060	219
40-49	43,723	6,526	135
50-64	59,025	5,681	104
65 and older	40,449	2,810	29
Marital Status (ages 15 and older)			
Married	120,934	16,067	340
Never married	79,570	14,749	402
Divorced/separated/widowed	47,550	5,411	85
Fertility (women ages 15 to 44)			
Total number of women	62,479	11,856	244
Women who had a birth in the past 12 months	4,078	963	25
Unmarried women ¹ who had a birth in the past 12 months	1,557	434	***
School Enrollment (ages 5 to 18)			
K-12	52,994	11,824	199
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older)			
Less than high school diploma	29,433	10,306	340
High school diploma or equivalent	58,212	7,216	138
Some college	59,030	6,226	94
Bachelor's degree or more	57,672	3,589	53
Median Annual Personal Earnings (in dollars)			
All (ages 16 and older with earnings)	\$28,500	\$20,000	\$17,100
Full-time, year-round workers	\$40,000	\$29,000	\$23,000
Persons in Poverty²			
Younger than 18	15,916	5,518	103
18-64	26,672	6,268	179
65 and older	3,535	513	5
Health Insurance			
Uninsured, all ages	48,794	15,828	536
Uninsured, younger than 18	5,971	2,446	57
Persons in Households by Type of Household³			
In family households	252,342	45,437	965
In married-couple households	182,448	28,957	567
In non-family households	49,021	4,360	131
Citizenship			
Citizen	286,889	37,457	545
Non-citizen	22,461	13,272	563
Language (ages 5 and older)			
Speaks only English at home	229,736	11,203	90
Does not speak only English at home	59,519	34,438	904
Speaks English very well	34,308	18,356	317
Speaks English less than very well	25,211	16,082	587
Year of Entry (foreign-born only)			
Before 1990	15,233	6,689	201
1990-1999	10,827	5,403	179
2000 or later	13,857	6,726	361
Regional Dispersion			
Northeast	55,361	7,022	202
New York	19,392	3,434	62
New Jersey	8,802	1,564	47
Midwest	66,976	4,671	85
South	114,866	18,315	370
Florida	18,843	4,253	92
Texas	25,257	9,533	77
West	72,147	20,721	451
California	37,349	14,092	378

¹Unmarried women includes those who were never married, divorced, separated or widowed. ²For detailed information on how poverty status is determined, see http://usa.ipums.org/usa-action/variables/POVERTY#description_tab. Due to the way in which the IPUMS assigns poverty values, these data will differ from those that might be provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. ³The household population excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters.

Note: Analysis is based on the following number of observations: all 3,061,692; Hispanics 416,860; Hispanics of Guatemalan origin 8,344. The symbol *** indicates insufficient number of observations to provide a reliable estimate.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/data_documentation/Accuracy/ACS_Accuracy_of_Data_2010.pdf.

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Table 2			
Household Characteristics, by Ethnicity and Guatemalan Origin, 2010			
	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Guatemalan Origin
Total (in thousands)	114,567	13,269	262
Homeownership (household heads)			
In owner-occupied homes (in thousands)	74,948	6,278	79
In renter-occupied homes (in thousands)	39,620	6,991	183
Homeownership rate (%)	65.4	47.3	30.0
Household Annual Income (in dollars)			
Median	\$49,800	\$40,000	\$39,000
Household Size			
Average number of persons	2.6	3.6	4.1

Note: The household population excludes persons living in institutions, college dormitories and other group quarters. Households are classified by the ethnicity of the household head. Analysis is based on the following number of observations: all 1,203,777; Hispanics 115,695; Hispanics of Guatemalan origin 2,096. The symbol *** indicates insufficient number of observations to provide a reliable estimate.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and

Table 3			
Employment Characteristics, by Ethnicity and Guatemalan Origin, 2010			
(thousands, unless otherwise noted)			
	All	Hispanics	Hispanics of Guatemalan Origin
Employment Status (civilians ages 16 and older)			
Employed	139,103	20,739	546
Unemployed	16,870	3,070	70
Not in labor force	86,814	11,412	195
Unemployment rate (%)	10.8	12.9	11.4
Industries¹			
Construction, agriculture and mining	11,305	2,789	106
Manufacturing	14,432	2,183	61
Trade and transportation	25,761	3,872	77
Information, finance and other services	87,605	11,895	301
Occupations¹			
Management, professional and related occupations	53,511	4,480	65
Services	21,578	4,984	186
Sales and office support	34,768	4,628	75
Construction, extraction and farming	8,075	2,495	102
Maintenance, production, transportation and material moving	21,170	4,154	118

¹Currently employed civilians ages 16 and older.

Note: Analysis is based on the following number of observations: all 2,443,926; Hispanics 291,505; Hispanics of Guatemalan origin 6,013. The symbol *** indicates insufficient number of observations to provide a reliable estimate.

Source: Pew Hispanic Center tabulations of the 2010 ACS (1% IPUMS sample). More information on the source data and sampling error is available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/design.shtml> and